

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ARA-06 NEA-10

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 /111 W

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R 191447Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8438

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 4685

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, IV

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: KOREAN QUESTION:

MEETING OF CORE GROUP IN IVORY COAST

REF: (A) STATE 098185 (B) ABIDJAN 4612 (NOTAL)

1. CORE GROUP REPRESENTATIVES IN IVORY COAST MET MAY 18 FOR DISCUSSION OF KOREAN QUESTION UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF BELGIAN AMBASSADOR PIERRE MARCHAL. ALL EIGHT CORE GROUP COUNTRIES WITH DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES RESIDENT IN IVORY COAST ATTENDED INCLUDING BELGIUM, CANADA, GERMANY, JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA, NETHERLANDS, UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES.

2. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR ADVISED THAT IN COURSE OF HIS FAREWELL CALLS HE HAD RAISED KOREAN QUESTION WITH MFA
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DIRECTOR OF CABINET EMMANUEL NOUAMA AND ALSO WITH

DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS ANOMA KANIE. BOTH HAD INDICATED THEY BELIEVED IVORY COAST SUPPORT OF SOUTH KOREA WAS FIRM AND WOULD NOT CHANGE. KANIE HAD EVEN SUGGESTED THAT FORMAL DEMARCHES ON THE SUBJECT WERE UNNECESSARY.

3. KOREAN AMBASSADOR KANG REPORTED THAT DURING MAY 15-17 VISIT OF ROK VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS YOON HA-JONG TO ABIDJAN QUESTION OF IVORY COAST SUPPORT FOR SOUTH KOREAN POSITION AT NAM SUMMIT IN COLOMBO WAS RAISED DURING CALL ON ACTING CHIEF OF STATE PRESIDENT AUGUSTE DENISE. DENISE SAID IVORY COAST SUPPORT FOR SOUTH KOREA WOULD NOT CHANGE.

4. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION AMONG CORE GROUP MEMBERS IT WAS DECIDED THAT TWO ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIONS TO IVORIANS ON KOREA SHOULD BE MADE, AS FOLLOWS:

A) BELGIAN AMBASSADOR MARCHAL WILL RAISE THE ISSUE ON BEHALF OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE CORE GROUP WHEN HE CALLS ON GOIC PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET BOIGNY IN GENEVA WITHIN NEXT TWO WEEKS.

B) JAPANESE AMBASSADOR YASUDE KENJI WILL ALSO RAISE THE ISSUE WHEN HE MAKES HIS INITIAL CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER USHER DURING NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS. KENJI SAID HE WOULD REFER TO THE MEETING OF THE CORE GROUP COUNTRIES WITH USHER BUT THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS FROM TOKYO DID NOT PERMIT HIM TO MAKE A COLLECTIVE DEMARCHE AS SUCH ON BEHALF OF CORE GROUP.

5. FINALLY IT WAS DECIDED THAT INDIVIDUAL CORE GROUP MEMBERS WOULD URGE CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR SOUTH KOREA WITH GOIC REPRESENTATIVES IN COURSE OF ONGOING BILATERAL CONTACTS DURING NEXT FEW MONTHS PRIOR TO NAM SUMMIT AND UNGA.

6. US REP UNDERLINED TO CORE GROUP IMPORTANCE TO US OF KOREAN QUESTION. HE RECALLED THAT DURING 30TH UNGA, CONFIDENTIAL

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IVORY COAST ABSTAINED ON HOSTILE RESOLUTION IN FIRST COMMITTEE, AND VOTED AGAINST HOSTILE RESOLUTION IN PLENARY AFTER AMBASSADOR SMITH'S APPROACH TO PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET. WHILE FORMAL APPROACHES TO GOIC ON KOREAN ISSUE PERHAPS NOT REQUIRED AT THIS TIME, ONGOING DISCUSSIONS SHOULD CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE CONCERN OF CORE GROUP COUNTRIES.

7. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS NO REASON TO BELIEVE IVORY COAST CONTEMPLATES CHANGE IN POSITION ON KOREA. RELATIONS WITH ROK CONTINUE CLOSE AND CORDIAL. ALTHOUGH IVORY COAST IS SOMEWHAT ISOLATED IN AFRICAN CONTEXT ON KOREAN POLICY THIS IS NOTHING NEW, AND GOIC HAS STOOD UP TO AFRICANS AND OTHER NON-ALIGNED BEFORE. IT IS NOT LIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT GOIC WILL BE PREPARED LOBBY ACTIVELY FOR ROK POSITION AT NAM OR WITH NACC MEMBERS. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT FONMIN USHER TOLD KOREAN AMBASSADOR PRIOR TO 1975 LIMA NAC THAT ACTIVE GOIC SUPPORT FOR ROK MIGHT EVEN BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE (75 ABIDJAN 4512). END COMMENT. COOKE

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